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November 10, 2006

Applicant(s): Vargas, Jaime; et. al.
Assignee: Cardica, Inc.
Title: Method for Sutureless Connection of Vessels
Docket No.: 144 Filing Date: Sep. 18, 2003
Serial No. 10/665,170 Art Unit: 3731

Transmitted herewith are the following documents in the above-identified application:

- (1) This Transmittal Letter; and
- (2) Applicant-Initiated Interview Request.


Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (571) 273-8300) on Nov. 10, 2006.



Brian Schar

Respectfully submitted,


Brian A. Schar
Cardica, Inc.
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Vargas, Jaime; et. al.
Assignee: Cardica, Inc.
Title: Method for Sutureless Connection of Vessels
Serial No.: 10/665,170 Filing Date: September 18, 2003
Examiner: Woo, Julian W. Group Art Unit: 3731
Docket No.: 144

APPLICANT-INITIATED INTERVIEW REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

In compliance with MPEP 713.01, this request is submitted to the Examiner in advance of the interview, and in a form equivalent to Form PTOL-413A.

The proposed date and time of the interview is November 16th, at 1:00 p.m. The type of interview requested is personal. Tentative participants are Brian Schar, attorney for Cardica, Inc., and Examiner Julian W. Woo. An exhibit may be shown: a demonstration model of Cardica's PAS-Port® proximal anastomosis tool. A short animation of the operation of that tool may also be shown.

The issues to be discussed include:

- (1) patentability of claim 1 over U.S. Pat. No. 6,461,320 to Yencho et. al. ("Yencho") because Yencho does not disclose the claimed translating an expander relative to an anastomosis device to form a flange; rather, it discloses rotation of an inner tubular member 136 relative to an outer tubular member 134 to form a flange on an anastomosis device (Yencho; e.g., col. 11, lines 45-53; col. 12, line 66 through col. 13, line 21);
- (2) patentability of claim 1 over U.S. Pat. No. 6,113,612 to Swanson et. al. ("Swanson"), because Swanson does not disclose the claimed translating an expander relative to an anastomosis device to form a flange; rather, it discloses inflation of a balloon that is already positioned within the anastomosis device to form a flange on an anastomosis device (Swanson; e.g., col. 7, lines 47-66; Figures 9-10);
- (3) potential amendments to one or more claims in order to facilitate allowance; and

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(4) the anticipated filing of an RCE in this case for consideration of references cited in related applications.

Assignee's attorney thanks the Examiner for his time and courtesy. Please contact the undersigned if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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